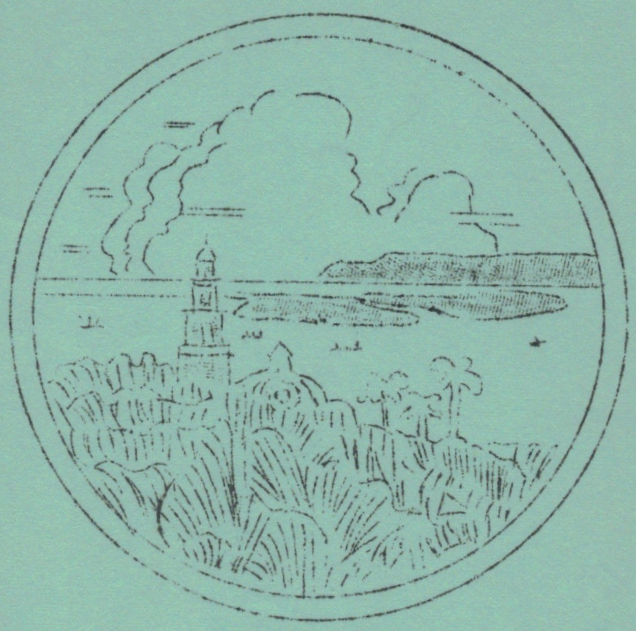
B ~ S ~ R ~ A
BORDERLAND SCIENCES
RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

The ROUND ROBIN



- A Factual and non-sectarian publication -

Issued in the interests of Borderland Sciences Research Associates (BSRA) and of all students of Psychic, occult, spiritistic and paraphysical phenomena.

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Meade Layne, M.A., Editor. Contributing Editors: Max Freedom Long, F.H.F., David D. Dagmar. All material is written by the Editor except where otherwise noted. Contributors are responsible for facts and opinions expressed by them.

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Round Robin represents in large part the interests and activities of the BORDERLAND SCIENCES RESEARCH ASSOCIATES and issues the bulletins which are sent to BSRA members. Round Robin and BSRA membership together, $5.00. BSRA only, $3.00 yr. or $1.00 quarterly. RR only, $3.50 yr. (as above). All Meade Layne publications cooperate closely with the HUNA FELLOWSHIP, Max Freedom Long, Director.

MALAMALA - LET US UPHOLD AND SPREAD ABROAD THE LIGHT!

ANNOUNCEMENT

It has been found necessary to suspend publication of THE FLYING ROLL, companion publication of THE ROUND ROBIN. This necessity arises from the excessive and still increasing costs of publication.

Subscribers to FLYING ROLL can have unexpired subscriptions applied to ROUND ROBIN, to SEANCE REPORTS, to books or any other material for sale by the M. L. Publications; OR may have a refund -- whichever they may desire.

THE ROUND ROBIN will be somewhat increased in size, and part of its material will be of FLYING ROLL kind and quality. It will also become the "official" publication of the Borderland Sciences Research Associates (BSRA), but its essential character will not be altered.

B.S.R.Associates accept tentatively the etheric origin of the discs and other sky phenomena and propose to study them from this angle; but they are also interested in the entire field of psychic, occult, spiritistic, and parapsychological problems lying in the "borderland" between the physical and "positive" sciences and the extra-sensory world. Their approach is non-religious (but not anti-religious) and non-dogmatic.

It has been found necessary to ask B.S.R.Associates for financial help in the way of dues. Mimeographing, paper and ink, clerical help, and other items add up to a sum which the editors cannot personally donate (in addition to their time and work).

ROUND ROBIN and BSRA Membership, 1 year ----- $5.00
BSRA Membership alone, 1 year ---------- 3.00 (or $1 quarterly)
ROUND ROBIN Subscription alone, 1 year ------ 3.50 (single copy, 40¢)

Associates who joined the BSRA group prior to October 15th, 1948, are asked, (since nothing was said to them about fees) to contribute $1.00 or more, if they feel so disposed, and receive credit for dues for one year.

Brief bulletins, releases or reports will be sent to B.S.R.Associates -- probably twice each month -- on matters of current interest. Membership cards will be issued.

B.S.R.Associates are asked to cooperate as opportunity offers in observing and reporting discs and other sky craft or any other strange phenomena, by sending in clippings from newspapers and periodicals (with name of paper, date, and name of the Associate sending them). Part of this information may appear in the bulletins and releases; other portions in the regular issues of ROUND ROBIN.

B.S.R.A. will have the cooperation of the Huna Press, Venture Press, Kosmon Publications, New Age Press, The Inner Council, and of a considerable number of professional workers interested in this kind of subject matter.

Seance Reports will appear from time to time, and some of the seance material will be published in ROUND ROBIN, as heretofore. Information of a most striking nature is now being received through Mark P. communicators, especially with reference to the etheric peoples. This is a unique and extremely important source for BSRA, furnishing information not to be had elsewhere.

R.R. and BSRA will greatly appreciate the names and addresses of persons who may be interested.

M. L.

9/20/8

(See pp 30-31, this issue)

- B - S - R - A -

A Letter to the Founders and Associates of the

BORDERLAND SCIENCES RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

And to All Persons interested in their activities.

The nature and purposes of the BSR association are already well-known to many of our readers, and are discussed briefly in Round Robin 7, Vol. iv. Its members, while interested in all types of 'borderland' phenomena, are especially concerned at present with the problem of the 'flying discs' and other strange sky-craft, and are disposed to study these from the standpoint of the etheric hypothesis, unless some other adequate explanation can be established as probable. It is highly important that this etheric theory be properly understood by at least a small group, who also have some means of mutual contact and information. It is very probable that the discs will return, and it is known that other etheric phenomena are on the increase. They will not be intelligible to the public, nor, for that matter, to most scientists, yet some means of dependable public information may become imperative at any time.

The idea of the BSRA group originated in discussions between Max Freedom Long, David D. Dagmar, Meade Layne, and others by correspondence. Our first idea was to effect merely a skeleton organization for practical purposes, without proposing dues or charges of any sort. But the response to the idea was greater than expected; many names came in, the correspondence grew heavy, stationary had to be purchased and printed, clerical help employed, and the mimeographing costs were considerable. Our friends will understand, without further explanation, that none of us could afford to meet these expenses from our private resources - and will acquit us of any attempt at profit making. If we are to continue, we shall have to have the financial help of BSRA from now on - as well as their cooperation in the way of information, clip - ings from the press, and all kinds of relevant material.

On our own part, we hope before long to issue short bulletins or 'special re-leases' every two or three weeks, dealing with 'borderland' phenomena and theories. The headquarters of BSRA are now located at the address of the Meade Layne Publica - tions. 3540 Adams Ave., San Diego 4, Calif. We have the cooperation of the Huna Press, The Venture Press, the Kosmon Publications, The New Age Press, "The Inner Council" - and of a considerable number of professional workers who are also well - informed on psychic and occult problems from the standpoint of the various sciences.

To return now to the financial problem: We propose that all persons who affil-iated with the BSR group up to this time, or who do so before the end of September 1948, be asked to contribute $1.00 or more if they feel disposed to do so, and that their 'dues' will then be considered as paid up for one year. Persons who join our group later than the end of September, 1948, shall be asked to contribute $1.00 per quarter, or $3.00 for the year if paid at one time.

The principal purpose of this letter is to make this proposal, to explain the necessity for it - and to say that we shall welcome any criticisms and comments which our BSR friends may care to make. The field of research is unlimited, and the task and necessity of public enlightenment is fast becoming imperative. We hope to hear from you and to have your cooperation.

Meade Layne - for BSRA

(The above is a reprint of a bulletin recently issued and is self-explanatory)

(See pp. 30-31, this issue)

A NARRATIVE OF OCCULT EXPERIENCE

by M.C. -

(ROUND ROBIN presents herewith a very remarkable first-hand narrative of occult "contacts" and instruction. The writer, M. C., is well-known to the editor and is a well educated, honest and highly dependable person of exceptional mental abilities. We have no doubt at all concerning the truthfulness and accuracy of details in this very unusual document of personal experience. It was not prepared for ROUND ROBIN in the form of an article. but came to the editor as a personal letter.)

You say I have a story? Well, you are quite right. Like everybody else in the world, I have. As I remarked to you, I cannot offer the testimony of eye-witnesses in support of that story, for the simple reason that for most of the events I could record for you, there were no other witnesses. The whole process has been almost entirely an individual affair.

That does not decrease its value to me, however much room it may leave for objection to those who demand legalistic proof, or so-called scientific proof. From the first, my instructor has been uninterested in advancing proofs of his existence to other people. His answers to queries about that indifference have always been made from one or both of two points: (a) the abundance of evidence already in existence for the facts of telepathy, projection, the etheric (and other) worlds, and all the rest of it, which, if weight of evidence meant anything, is already sufficient to have swung the balance of opinion in its favor long ago; and (b) his work is not a public activity. There are those who prefer to broadcast information. Their talents, capacities and training all fit them for that kind of activity. On the other hand, there are those who, like him, concern themselves with the instruction of a few individuals, and who present that instruction in great detail over a period of many years.

His first appearance was abrupt and sudden. I awakened in the middle of an April night, in 1930, to find him standing in my room. His presence startled me, but inspired no real fear, and his immediate reassuring greeting put me at ease at once. In appearance he was tall, about six feet, moderately muscular, but not at all fat. His features were clear-cut, well proportioned, and slightly aquiline. He had a deeply olive skin, no beard, and his black hair was cut very short. He was dressed in a long woolen garment of a deep red color, and over his shoulders was draped, shawl-fashion, a length of the same material with a wide yellow band at one end.

He told me that he was a 'living' person, just as I was, and that what I was seeing there in my room was a projection, or materialization — a kind of 'solid shadow' of him. His solidity at that moment was abundantly obvious, for he had awakened me by turning on the large flashlight on my night table, and setting it up in such a way that it lighted the room. He was as opaque as any person of around a hundred and eighty pounds would be, and cast the usual shadow.

He stated at once the reason for his presence, informing me that he wanted nothing from me, but that he had come to offer me certain information if I wished to receive it. He went on to say that I happened to be one of those people whose development had resulted in a constitution so constructed as to permit a direct approach such as he was making, and that I possessed certain innate aptitudes that would permit me to learn a very useful technique of integration.

Naturally all this was intensely interesting to me, but when he asked me point-blank if I wanted to make myself useful to other people, I had to tell him

quite honestly that I hadn't thought much about it, one way or the other. This answer didn't seem to surprise him. He laughed and said, "Well, think about it." He went on to say that as we go through life we inevitably affect other people, and asked me if I didn't think it was a good idea to learn how to make that effect more constructive and positive than destructive and negative. I replied that it would seem logical to make it as beneficial as possible.

He proceeded to explain what he meant by integration -- that is, the entire human being (body, emotional content, and mind) working together as a unit under the control and direction of the enlightened mental element, which he spoke of as being the 'highest,' or 'true' or 'real' self of any human being, and in all human beings very powerful and essentially good.

He told me it is not easy to reach a state of such integration, but that it is possible (although not probable) for a person to reach it within the space of one lifetime. Like any technique, it requires study and application, and competent direction -- instruction -- is a big help, although by no means a definite assurance of success. Natural aptitudes, however, are absolutely necessary before such instruction is offered by him or his associates. As he said, there would be small reason to try to make a violinist out of someone who obviously possessed no talent for music. On the other hand, if the person possessed the necessary interest and ability it would be a shame to allow it to remain undeveloped and disappear for want of attention.

I remarked that there must be a great many people in the world with as much 'talent' for his technique as I possessed, if not a great deal more. He replied that, indeed, there were many such people, but that not all of them could be instructed in the same way. There are many types, and for each type there is a special approach that fits in with the special needs, and he warned me that difference has absolutely no causative bearing on relative quality. Apparent difference is not a sound basis from which to estimate superiority or inferiority.

I told him I couldn't decide at the moment whether or not I wished to accept his offer of instruction, but that I found it definitely interesting. My attitude seemed to please him, and he told me that I was not expected to decide anything on the spur of the moment. I should consider what he had to say for a while and decide deliberately and with care whether or not the things he would say to me appeared to be reasonable.

When I asked him how I would be sure, next morning, that his visit had not been an unusually vivid dream, he suggested a plan. I got up and rearranged several of the more permanent objects in the room, then placed a book across the top of an empty vase. Then I went back to the bed, and he proceeded to rearrange my rearrangements. Finally he took the book off the vase, put it in a different place, turned the vase upside down on it, and with an amused smile picked up a pencil and balanced it neatly across the upturned bottom of the vase. In the morning my usually neat room was just as he had left it, rearrangements, book, vase, pencil and all.

We continued our conversation. He asked me if I had heard of reincarnation, and I told him I knew the meaning of the word, but that was all. He then asked if I had heard of Atlantis, and I said I had in a general way. There had been an article about it in a Sunday supplement a couple of years before, and I remembered some family talk about it. That was all I knew, however. He then told me that I had lived in Atlantis during the days of the last remnant of that continent, and that I had witnessed the destruction. He offered to show me what had happened, so I sat propped up against the headboard while he sat on the foot of the bed, and the whole story unfolded before my wide-open eyes like a cinema.

The story embraced about two and a half months of time, and ended with my own death, which was not a loss of consciousness or identity, but simply a transference of awareness to another 'world'.

I was thrilled and deeply interested, and wanted to write it all down at once so I would remember it. He assured me that I would have no difficulty in remembering, but he asked me not to make any written notes of anything he told me or showed me until I had decided whether or not to accept his instruction, because, if I did decide to accept, then notes would not be permitted as part of the necessary training. I could, however, draw a map, if I desired, of the island. This I did.

He came again in about a week, and we had another long conversation. During the next month he made four or five of these visits, and in the end I decided to turn the matter of my education over to him. I have never had the slightest cause to regret that very vital decision.

It is interesting to note that the two family dogs that slept in the house never barked at him, although they very definitely knew of his presence and upon at least two occasions one of them was present in my room at the time of his visits and was petted and handled by him.

During the early years of our association he made a number of these 'shadow-visits,' but as time went on they became unnecessary, and were discontinued. He has given me to understand that they are difficult to accomplish and require an enormous expenditure of energy-- and that he has other 'students' who still require them for their reassurance. He did not discontinue them, however, until he had established definite and unmistakable means of making his 'presence' known.

From the beginning every aspect of my education was directed in detail by him. He chose the subjects I was to take in high school, and decided whether or not I was to study the text-books supplied for the course. Usually my acquaintance with those text-books authorized by the school turned out to be very slight, sometimes consisting of a single reading of the lesson, or perhaps one reading of the book at the beginning of the year, after which it was put away and I received the information required -- and much more -- at the 'night school' as I called it. I carried five subjects in school, and did extra work during my Junior and Senior years in astronomy, physics, and organic chemistry -- some of this at the local University, and some of it via special after-school instruction from a science teacher at the school who was interested in my work. It impressed him when I insisted on taking both semesters of high-school physics at the same time -- and did it with a grade average of 95. In addition, he was well aware that the only math I was taking in school consisted of algebra and a semester of business arithmetic.

At first I did not have any visual memories of where I had been or what I had been doing at night. I simply woke up in the morning with the extra added knowledge impressed on my consciousness. I soon discovered that this consciousness had extensions of which I had been unaware before. Very often the new knowledge did not appear in my waking awareness until the school-teacher would ask a question. Then I would know the answer. After a few experiences of this kind I began to trust the phenomenon and to feel more assurance about the whole process.

Within a few months, however, I began to have memories of having visited a definite place, of having gone to a definite building, seen certain people, and studied those things I remembered. Sometimes there would be a lecture or a discussion. At other times the instruction would be given by means of pictures such as my friend had shown me during his first visit. Sometimes we would go to other places with the teachers, or visit a large and varied museum of knowledge, with fascinating exhibits embracing every conceivable subject. The prohibition of

written notes continued in effect, however, until 1945, on the principle that whatever one can remember is known, but whatever has to be written down is merely an accumulation of extraneous material, which, while it has its uses, does not contribute much to the acquisition of the technique of integration under study.

Since 1945 I have made a few notes, neither very extensive nor complete, on certain aspects of the knowledge that has been offered me. I'm still in the process of learning to recognize the people who will be interested in them. In one or two cases I have 'bumped my head' very uncomfortably, and have grown to be more cautious. My instructor is in no sense a 'guide', so he doesn't tell me what to do or what not to do about things like that. I have to develop my judgment, he says. However, I've noticed that he comes to the rescue whenever I get into serious difficulties or do things that are likely to become dangerous.

As I mentioned before, he is a person like ourselves, living in a chemical body in the dense chemical world, and he is a Tibetan by birth, and a Lama. At the time of his first appearance I knew nothing of either Tibet or Lamas, but since that time my interest and consequently my information have both exp anded considerably. The other teachers -- those at the 'night-school' -- however are not all connected with a chemical vehicle, and in some cases never have been. Yet they are as human as we are, if not more so.

This is one of the points where the information the controls of the M. P. seances are giving seems to parallel what I have received -- i.e., that man is originally an inhabitant of the etheric world, and that relative to his history, his presence in the dense chemical sphere is a 'recent' development. I wonder how much more of that interesting heresy they will present to you. My guess would be -- quite a lot.

According to my own acceptances, not all humanity takes part in these chemical excursions that we call 'life in the world.' By far the majority of our brethren prefer life 'on' the world to life 'in' it. They have told us again and again that only a person ignorant of his possibilities would be content with dense chemical life, and a few of them have tried to show us how to reach a point of knowledge where our excursions into the dense chemical world will be definitely and completely a matter of deliberate decision by an integrated, enlightened composite self, instead of a more or less blind response to blindly generated compulsions. To them we are the halt, the lame and the blind -- and the dead.

During the period of our dense chemical involvement most of us are incompetent in our natural environment, the etheric world -- if we are not, indeed, in an actual coma. Some of us can be brought out of that condition to some degree for short periods of time, and taught to function rationally during those periods. There are people there who consider this kind of effort to be important and worth while, and they are our instructors, helpers, guides, teachers, and, in effect, our physicians. Some of them come into the chemical world to work at the problem from this side. Others remain in the etheric sphere to work with our torpid etheric consciousness. Between them the two groups in the two divisions of the physical world cooperate in an attempt to educate those people who are interested in learning. They make as many approaches to the problem as there are types of people, and while there are many of these willing workers, it is as the Christian Bible says, "The harvest indeed is great, but the laborers are few," (relatively speaking).

As you will see from the implications of some of the statements above, the ideas I have absorbed disagree considerably with many of the accepted tenets of occultism and the teachings of the religions -- even of that religion toward which I feel most strongly drawn. Yet, buried in occult works, and in the various 'bibles' of the world, is the information that supports these ideas. In addition, and probably far more pertinent at the time, actually, there are these 'voices' -- in San Diego and who knows where else -- crying into the modern wilderness their fragments of essential information.

- end -

AN AFTERNOON WITH LADY WONDER

by

Mary Judith Hyde

"Suppose you try it," said Lady Wonder when her owner, Mrs. Fonda, was trying to make her hurry a reply to some question asked of her. I did not actually see this myself, but a friend of mine who was present told me about it. But, in spite of her suggestion, this lady-horse stands in my experience as one of the best mediums I ever visited -- if "medium" she be. She is owned by Mrs. Claudia Fonda, lives just south of Richmond, Va., on the Petersburg Pike. She is twenty-four years old and has been with Mrs. Fonda ever since she was a little colt.

Lady first showed her remarkable intelligence, or at least it was first recognized when Mrs. Fonda found that it was not necessary to call her from the pasture when she wanted her; the horse would simply be up by the barn. Then one day while cleaning a shed in which there were some letter blocks, she noticed Lady moving the blocks about with her nose. The thought flashed: "Maybe she can spell," -- and that was the beginning of a most interesting experiment.

When Lady is brought into her stall to "work," as Mrs. Fonda calls it, she now faces a sort of typewriter which she can use by hitting a lever which raises up the letter or number she wishes to use. She touches these keys with her mouth, and this is the way she "talks". But listen to our story:

At last we were there, and Lady was brought into the room. Mrs. Fonda stood or sat beside her, a little switch in her hand -- to keep Lady working, I suppose, though, as far as I could see, it was not needed. Certainly Mrs. Fonda did not use it in any way to convey any of the answers to her Lady-horse. Having settled that in our minds, we then, naturally, thought of telepathy, but eventually abandoned that also.

Mrs. Fonda is frank in saying that she does not know how Lady is able to use her unusual powers. She seemed to think concentration had something to do with it, but when Lady is asked questions to which neither Mrs. Fonda nor the bystanders know the answers, she will give the answer just the same.

The first thing Lady did for us was to identify numbers which we had written down on a piece of paper which neither Mrs. Fonda or Lady could see. Then she did some simple problems in arithmetic. Before we started, Mrs. Fonda had placed the numbers and letters in the slots in a haphazard way, shuffling them before she did so; therefore Lady apparently has to find them anew each time she has a visitor.

We both had gone down there 'cold turkey' -- not knowing what to expect, and when Mrs. Fonda invited us to ask Lady some questions, we were nonplussed. What sort of questions does one ask a horse? Finally, I blurted out, "Lady, where do we live -- in what town?" She fussed about a little and then spelled out "A L E X A N D R," -- which is pretty close to Alexandria, the town where we live. Mrs. Fonda explained that Lady often spells phonetically.

Lady was waiting for another question, so I asked, "Where did our dog come from before we got him?" (I'll explain a little later about this dog.) "J - J - GERMANY," she spelled out.

Question: "What makes him so afraid?"
Answer: "Bombs."
Q. "Was he a war-trained dog?"
A. "No."

Q. "What is his name?" (The dog's name is "Ginger," and my husband wrote that down on the paper. Mrs. Fonda did not know the name, but of course we both did -- but this is the amazing part. In order to make it clear to Lady, I added, "What do I call my dog when I go to the back door -- I call him --------?")

"G-I-N-G-Y," spelled out Lady. And "Gingy" is what we call him most of the time, although his name is "Ginger." That answer was the most amazing of all, for she did not give the name as it was written on the paper and on which we were concentrating -- but gave what we actually call the dog.

We then asked, "What was the dog's name before we got him?"
"Irvin Otto," was Lady's reply.

Our questions were about up, but we finally asked this one: "Who helps you with these answers -- is it someone who looks like we do, but not quite like us?" We did not want to say "Spirit," and Lady answered "Yes." Later another friend of ours asked who helped her, and she spelled out "S-P-I-R-I-T."

But here I want to tell a little more about this dog. We got him from the Animal Rescue League last fall. He is a small brown-red dog, with a black nose, and looks something like a small Great Dane. Never have I seen an animal so confused and so afraid. He would run, or flatten himself out on the ground, would not eat if anyone was watching, and seemed terrified of everything -- people, other dogs, children, new objects. It was as though he had been living among people who did not speak as we do, for he did not seem to understand anything we said -- or that he had always been cooped up. At first we thought he might have been a war-trained dog, but he did not seem old enough for that. Twice since we have had him he has been so frightened that he has given out the strange fear-odor which, we are told, dogs and other animals sometimes do.

Now, after nearly ten months with us, he is just beginning to respond to our love for him, and ever since our visit to Lady, he has seemed like a different dog. (We took him along with us that day.) To have Lady tell us that he was from Germany was amazing, but quite possible. Of course we cannot be sure, but it is something to work on.

There was another incident in connection with "Gingy" which I might mention here. On our way home that day we stopped at Fredericksburg to eat our lunch on a street under some lovely shade trees. There were quite a few passers-by, and suddenly one of them, a woman, turned and came back to speak to my husband, who was standing beside the car, eating his lunch. She said she had been attracted by the dog, because it had almost "human eyes."

"What kind of dog is he?" she asked.

"We have just been told that he might be a German dog."

"Well, he is," she said. Then she went on to tell us of her own experience in raising dogs, and that our "Ginger" was a real German police dog. She said they are smaller than the wolf-dogs usually called police dogs. She had never seen one quite as light in color as this one -- that they had a special name, and if one could get a picture of Hitler's mountain home one might see what they were like, as he had used them for protection. She added that they were very fierce, and when angry their eyes became deep pools of blue. Now, we have always said that we have a blue-eyed dog, for "Gingy's" eyes are unmistakably of that color when he becomes excited. She asked if the roof of his mouth was black,(It is.); if he had large fangs (He has.); and if he raises a sort of fin on his back when he is excited (He does.); and if he likes women better than men. (Also right.) In short, she gave us all the characteristics of this special kind of dog, and they fitted "Gingy" exactly.

This episode, following on our interview with Lady, was a bit too much. We left Fredericksburg slightly dazed. Now we are trying to check on the information given us. When we first got Ginger, we had gone to the library and looked through twenty books, but had failed to find him, and so had decided he must be just 'plain dog', after all. It will probably take some time to prove or disprove the statements made about him by Lady.

And going back to her -- since we were there a group of friends have visited Lady. They put to her fifty questions -- political, religious and personal -- and they were simply amazed by her answers. One friend even asked her about reincarnation and asked what she had been before, if she had lived before. Lady answered that she had lived before and had been a horse.

Mrs. Fonda does not seem to know much about spiritualism, although she says many spiritualists have visited her. Dr. J. B. Rhine, parapsychology pioneer, also has visited her and conducted some tests, but that was some time ago, and it was not clear to me if he decided whether or not Lady could function without Mrs. Fonda being present -- which is an important point. Lady, herself, says she cannot, but I believe she could -- that is, if she were talking to someone who loved her and was sympathetic. We expect to visit Lady again before long, and will then be able to give further information.

I have just checked the story of the Elberfeld Horses, in "The Unknown Guest," by Maurice Maeterlinck (1916). These stallions communicated by means of an alphabet which was rigged up. They pawed a board, so many times for each letter, and the process of communication seems to me a bit complicated. However, Maeterlinck points out that the individual and separate intelligence of these animals is one of the great discoveries of the age. These horses could do all sorts of things -- especially in mathematics; they were right at home with square and cube root. Their master, Krall, taught them up to the square root of 144, and after that they did the figuring themselves. All sorts of committees and investigators visited the horses, and declared that they worked independently of their master. Maeterlinck seemed to think that these horses had a means of communication which human beings can understand, and which most animals do not have. He seemed to think that most animals would prove very intelligent if we could but understand them.

I told you that Lady said she had lived before and that she was a horse in her former life also. Max Heindel, along with other occult teachers, tells us that animals are ruled by a Group Spirit -- that is, that each different species is under the dominion of its own Group Spirit. This explains why all animals do practically the same things as the others in their group -- a raccoon, for instance, always washes its food before eating it. But Max Heindel also says that sometimes the etheric head of a horse is drawn into the head of the dense body (as is the case with human beings), and then we have an example of unusual animal intelligence. Intelligence is the same, no matter where you find it. So, my husband and I stood amazed before Intelligence expressed on the human level (human speech) through animal consciousness. We were amazed, and humble too, for wonders never cease.

When my friend asked Lady what she thought of human beings, she said, "Love all." What great lessons we can learn from unexpected places!

-oOo-

(Following is an excerpt from Dr. Nandor Fodor's ENCYCLOPÆDIA OF PSYCHIC SCIENCE concerning the Elberfeld horses.)

THE ELBERFELD HORSES

The Elberfeld horses are the mathematical wonders of the animal world. The case was described by Dr. E. Clarapede, of Geneva University, as "the most sensational event that has happened in the psychological world." The discovery of equine mathematical genius was made by William von Osten in 1891. Kluge Hans was taught to count skittles by striking with his hoof as many times as there were skittles on the table. Von Osten first pronounced the numbers aloud and later wrote them on a blackboard. The results soon proved to be astonishing. The horse began to perform mathematical operations. When Osten died in 1909, his work was continued by Herr Krall, a jeweler of Elberfeld. He taught four horses, Muhamed, Zarif, Berto and Hanschen, the latter blind, by more efficient methods. The horses not only learned the fundamental mathematical operations -- addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, but after only four months' training extracted square and cube roots and learned to spell. They answered questions by stamping with their hoofs. To give the number 34, for instance, they struck three times with the left and four times with the right hoof.

Krall's book, Denkende Tiere, stirred the world of science. One commission after another came to his stables. Many scientists persisted in stubborn negations, many went away in awe and wonder. Maurice Maeterlinck paid a visit. Muhamed, after a formal introduction, phonetically spelled out his name with his hoofs, solved almost instantaneously problems of which even Maeterlinck did not know the answer, refused to give the square root of a chance number which was afterwards found to have none, and expressed thoughts and feelings by spelling. The procedure was to choose cards with letters on them. One day, Muhamed "squealed": "The groom struck Hanschen."

Sometimes they said they were tired and would not answer. In the experiments care was taken to exclude the possibility of mind-reading. As a precaution to prevent signals, the questions were sometimes asked by telephone, the receiver being hung on the ear of the horse; frequently the problem was written on the blackboard and the horse left alone to solve it; sometimes the figures were traced with a finger on the animal's back. It was a curious fact that after six months of schooling the horses made no further progress. They could only do what they had been taught and did it without any conscious effort. Sometimes they could not answer simple questions such as telling the number of those present. If uncertain, they made a timid blow, and generally their intelligence appeared to be on the level of a six to eight-year-old intelligent child.

Among those scientists who testified to the reality of the facts were Dr. Edinger, the eminent neurologist, of Frankfort; Dr. H. Kraemer and Dr. H. E. Zeigler, of Stuttgart; Dr. Paul Sarasis, of Basle; Professor Ostwald, of Berlin; Prof. A. Beredka, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris; Prof. Schoeller and Dr. Gehrke, of Berlin; Prof. Goldstein, of Darmstadt; Dr. William McKenzie, of Genoa; Dr. R. Assagioli, of Florence; Dr. Hartkopf, of Cologne; Dr. Freudenberg, of Brussels; Dr. Ferrari, of Bologna, etc.

No satisfactory explanation was ever reached. C. de Vesme wonders whether the process by which the horses solved their problems was not mediumistic, for they often spelled in the reverse order, suggesting mirror writing, a characteristic of automatic scripts. By this he did not mean to suggest the intervention of spirits, but a manifestation of the equine subliminal self by motor automatism, unhampered by the limitation of the animal brain.

Krall also experimented with a young elephant, Kana, but the beast was too lazy to learn.

-oOo-

ABOUT THEOSOPHISTS

by Dr. J. Croiset vanUchelen

Someone, according to a copied article in the last issue of ROUND ROBIN, is "in search of theosophists". Shall I tell where they may be found? And may I add to the excellent comment of the editor, who stated that, as given in the article, the term theosophist seemed rather "thinned out and watered down." And so it was of necessity if we apply the coined word as a generalizing term for what more accurately might be termed "students of the ancient wisdom the world over."

Those who study these teachings, whether in the original language, from translations, or so-called modern theosophical books -- whether they are Hindus, Buddhists or Christians -- are all companion students, seekers -- theosophists, if you wish to use that term. If this were correctly understood, it would never be asked, for instance, whether theosophists are Buddhists, by those who recall that Madame Blavatsky formally became one, for then it would be apparent that theosophists OR members of The Theosophical Society are of all religions, or none. Many are not followers of any one religion, though they may ardently study the teachings of several World Teachers.

You will note that we made a distinction between theosophists (so called in the article referred to), and F. T. S. -- that is, fellows of The Theosophical Society -- and this distinction cannot and must not be overlooked.

The raison d'etre for any banding together of men is a common goal, specific aims to be achieved in joined effort -- and in this case it is the Theosophical Society which to such students offers this opportunity. Its prime objective is to form a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood, besides such other objectives as the study of the innate powers in nature, through the avenues of philosophy, religion and science, and to diffuse such knowledge among men. The undeniable fact is that organization is natural to all evolving life-forms.

True, ULTIMATELY the Quest and the Goal are the individual. But we, the average human, are of and in the world of men. Do we wish to attain for ourselves alone, or do we desire to share with all other men whatever we thus far have found of lasting value and which they are still lacking? Of course, this by no means is to say that the teachings cannot be applied by anyone, but who will maintain that the effort by the average lone student is or can be as powerful, as fruitful, as the application by many in unison, guided purposefully in a hierarchical structure, as understood in these very teachings?

Let us fill our cup at the fountain of life. But the water will become stagnant if we seek to hold it. We must give forth to receive; the waters of life are endlessly flowing.

As fellow-members of the Theosophical Society, we find that our Quest is not only a matter of individual search and study, but becomes an application along ethical lines of endeavour, to give forth under the guidance of one so entrusted by those who govern its unseen destiny. That is, if we wish.

And it is there we must search for theosophists in a different sense of the word, my friends.

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COMMUNICATION OF INTEREST:

(From time to time RR presents one of the many psychic or mediumistic communications that sent to us, without guarantees of any kind, but usually because we know our informant personally, have confidence in his or her judgment, and because the subject matter seems of peculiar interest, or contains statements which may be verifiable later. The letter from which the following extracts are made comes from a responsible person in San Francisco).

"Some information has come through our group that I think you might be interested in (this is trumpet voice phenomena)... You will recall the airplane wreck that killed forty-five people, including Earl Carroll. We sat that Thursday evening, and one of those brought to be helped was Lorene, stewardess on the plane..Her great anxiety was not for herself. She did not realize what had happened, and kept crying and moaning that she was pinned under the seat of the wrecked plane and could not get to the people in her charge to help them. When we finaaly made her understand what had happened, she was gone like a shot to gather up her people ... The next week she came through trance, since then through the trumpet. Last week she brought the stewardess of the last plane-load of people who were killed, for us to help her.

"What I am leading up to is this. The Thursday evening preceding this last mess of plane wrecks, we were speaking of these things ... and she began to talk about the flyings discs (and incidentally, she agrees with the Mark P. Communicators as to their origin)*. She further said, it appeared that some of the plane wrecks no one could find a reason for, were caused by a plane having gotten into or too close to a stream of force caused by the objects (discs). She also said, 'If the remains of these planes are examined in the proper manner, they will be found to be radioactive; and in some of them, in the metal parts, there will be found the same elements that were found in the remains of the discs'" (Note: This refers to material fallen from a disc over Maury Island, off San Francisco). "Is there some way this could be checked? Would some of the scientific people you know be in a position to find out? She saud she was much afraid there would be more plane wrecks soon - and we did have them, within two or three days."

"Last week we received this: 'I am instructed to tell you there is going to be some excitement on the west coast before long.' When pressed for a date, she finally said "next month". Other persons present understood her to mention the 15th, but I did not hear that date myself and cannot vouch for it." (The 'month' would seem to be September, tho' the exact date of the seance is not given by the writer).

"Another incident you may be interested in ...One of the sitters has a friend on the 'other side' who was killed by falling on a milk bottle, which broke and pierced his jugular vein. He was asked jestingly whether he 'still drove a milk truck', and he always replied in the same spirit and said "You'd be surprised if I brought it here some night". .. This particular night the trumpet guide Alice said, "You people are going to get a surprise." When the lights were turned on, two of the three trumpets were lying flat... the man who owned the third reached out to pick it up. It seemed to stick to the floor and he gave it a jerk. This tipped over a large glass of milk that was sitting under it. This happened in bright light, with about ten people present ... "

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*Note: Underscoring is by the RR editor. All data which has so far come to us either tends to confirm the "etheric hypothesis" of the M.P. communicators, or is at least consonant with it and not in contradiction.

This matter of the alleged radiactivity of the metal of crashed planes could be checked, and we hope some of our authorities and experts will not be TOO expert and learned, and so refuse even to investigate. The fiction that 'practically all' plane crashes are eventually 'solved' seems really to mean that some theory has been invented and given official sanction as the 'true explanation.'

- EXCERPTS FROM THE SEANCES - *

(Trance Mediumship of Mark Probert)

CONTROL, A Polynesian, said to be a Kahuna:

(Question: Can the effects of the death prayers be obtained by thought-forms rather than by servient spirits?)

"Yes, could be accomplished much better by thought-forms than by spirit. Energy, thought, can be solidified to an extent where it goes into physical body - then, what you call - boom! (explosion). But not spirit, no!

(Note: It seems likely that the mysterious deaths of many Filipinos in Hawaii recently may have been caused by some revival of Kahuna magic. The internal organs of the victims were ruptured as if by a severe blow)

(Q. Are you one of the Kahunas?)

I am. My teachers, my masters say I come talk a little while with you, make more clear teachings.

(Would you like to speak to us about the way you accomplished instant healing?)

In same way as mastery of fire walking, extended to some one who even do not believe such can be done. It is giving of different energised forces to another - imparting of mind substance that is clean, that is good.

(If you yourself were to heal a broken ankle, would you form a mental image of a perfect ankle?).

Yes. In forming in mind a perfect bone, you are making a pattern, a good one; you are changing a broken mould for a complete one. (Q). Yes, draw particles of dense matter into mold by will, by power of mind, or same thing takes place with cells of body - changes vibratory rate. (Q) Yes, this is same thing as takes place in what you call miraculous healing.

(Is that what Jesus used?)

You people of white races, you do not have faith which we did. Jesus said, unless you become like little children you shall not enter the Kingdom. All that is meant was to so fix your mind that you can receive understanding. I wish I could speak more plainly.

(The question has been raised, about using this means of gaining material things).

All things which the mind feels is for its use in your physical world are good. So much has been taught of the evils of exchange in your money! There is no evil in money, there is only evil in its use. It is the same as black and white magic. There is no evil or good in either if not used in proper manner, or if used in proper manner only. Believe, please believe me, peoples - thought is substance. In a country long way from here is peoples in bush that have thing they throw, you call boomerang- it will come back and kill you. Your thought, because it is energised substance, are the same. Thing I came to speak about though, you please explain to white man that write book, man on death does not separate himself into many pieces like exploding snake.

(Note: This is a reference to Max Freedom Long and his book 'Secret Science Behind Miracles. The communicator has misunderstood Mr.Long's presentation of the Huna concept on this point. An attempt was made to clear up the meaning).

(Q. Is it right to invoke the Aumakua in acts of worship?)

Aumakua is Great Man, great Lord, great Mind of protector of body.

(Q. Before the power can flow to Unhane, must the channels of unihipili be cleared?)

Yes, must be cleared to (point of) not thinking of self, 'no should have done this or that'.

(You mean clearing away of guilt complexes?)

Yes, or else you have block which there is no getting through. Please to tell

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*NOTE: See page entitled "Meade Layne Publications", back of this issue

man our peoples very happy to him for he bring back all our teachings to present peoples. The white man is very high in mind and can understand and have to work different law of our teachings. Much better have this present generation than any which ever was here.

(That is very encouraging. Can you say anything about time or place of the origin of the Huna?)

I please to go and find out if can talk some more. (Departs, returns after four minutes. Dance gestures, talk in Polynesian, then English).

Aloha from my people. They say to me, Go, my son; explain to white peoples from whence we come. Out of the great spaces from which all humanity manifested into this physical world, there are great teachings. They brought their teachings into this physical plane of substance, in order to keep an open door to the day when we here must all go back.

(Note: This seems to refer to a teaching common to these communicators, that all life and all phenomena of our world first existed in the etheric worlds. In these worlds are races, cultures, civilizations; incarnation or reincarnation takes place from or through such worlds. The root ideas of all religions and philosophies do not originate here, but are derived from an etheric existence - however much they may be elaborated or perverted on our present plane of being).

(Q. Where did they first start practising these teachings?)

From out of what you today call the Hawaiian Islands; many many centuries ago, after tremendous, tremendous eruptions and earthquakes that swept the earth, came the many small islands. There my people took form, just as yours have taken form in your individual countries. Life on this plane to begin with was a spontaneous action--Men did not at first work through what you call a biological process; it was some time later that he used this process to enter into the earth. (Q) These (Huna)teachings, or parts of them, are held as truth in all the great teachings of the life of mankind. You can see why - because man comes from out of one place - all man, all space. (Q) Yes, the Kahuna (arose in the Pacific Islands); but same thing to be found in all life, all teachings. You take you have before right here before me now, a very fine Chinese man, Lo Sun Yat, as you have LaoTse; they will tell you of similar teachings from their people. Long ago, Lo Sun Yat tell you, men in his country freeze wet blanket around themselves and make dry - same force is mind from body - same force is foots on fire (fire walking or fire immunity); the big mistake man makes is believing he is alone, his race, his group is only one to have knowledge of life and great Path to glorious Aumakua. It is wrong. Now do I make things plain to you, Doctor?

(Note: The endless disputes among ethnologists and others, as to the origin and distribution of races, mysterious similarity of artifacts and ideas, and other like problems, are hopeless and futile from the standpoint of these communicators. The antiquity of man on this earth exceeds by many millions of years the most liberal estimates of our savants; the various races appeared as if by autogenesis, each in its own area; yet all had a common origin on the etheric planes. To this latter fact is attributed the basic likeness of cultural ideas, and not to any prehistoric migration from the "home of the race" and a different distribution of land masses. Such great migrations have certainly taken place, but the twelve-thousand-year antiquity of Atlantis or Lemuria is as yesterday against this alleged human history of five million years).

(Q. How long have you been on the other side?)

(The Control turns 'his' head aside, speaks to some one in his own language, then replies in English): Seven hundred and five hundred - what is that?

(That is 1200 years. You came from the Hawaiian group of Islands?)

Yes.

(Was the great magic known to you in those days?)

Known long before that time, too. Only thing is bad, white man come to Islands, teach of white God, tell Kahuna man he have devils in him, have no power, have to rely on white man's God - or Kahuna is evil, needs to die and be forgiven, but cannot be forgiven unless great white man's Christ give blood to forgive him. Kahuna teachers put away teachings, hide from white man, and slowly teachings die from eye of white man, but still here. Believe me, your peoples owe much to man who writes book.

(End of sitting)

(At another seance a different Kahuna communicated, from whom we quote briefly).

"Life in astral world is good. All different life go different place. You think for yourself, you make for yourself life. I help my people in the Islands. I come from where man teach about fire. Yes, I know about Kahuna. I was one Kahuna. You not know man has power of extending self? Can extend self, not hit with bullet, not hurt with fire, not feel cold, not feel hot. Can make wall. (Q). Wall is made with thinking; not much thinking, but deep thinking; go down deep, then comes action, action of mind on body. Start fluid force come from body. Take good long time know how to walk on fire.

(It takes a long time to learn how to build the wall)?

It takes from a baby, all time. To transfer force to someone else, extend hand. Force come from hand. Other man pick up force ... attach to body.

(Do you use chants and rituals?)

Yes, use all time - chants, mantrams -

Yes, great Kahunas still live in islands, in my world; in your world too. Secret - no tell!

Yes, I know about book. Good! Man must every day look, search, find, use. But not do it for gain - not gain for self. Every day you go into silence, you call on Aumakua, you learn... I go now.

Communicator, Lo Sun Yat: "You know, if you did not live in a desire body you would not have good and evil. Desire is the emotionalizing force for good and evil, and there your previous lives come in. Some are emotionally inclined to what another calls evil. He finds a thing gratifying, or what he calls happiness or completeness in himself. It may be evil to everyone else, but to him it is good. On it he can sleep; on it he can dream. The Cosmic Mind, as I have learned to understand it, knows no such thing. Man has concocted these things for himself.

"The difficulty (in describing the state of humanity) lies in the fact that we do not know where the world is going. We cannot conceive what is in store for men ... on earth or in self-made heaven. But the goal is for man to find his way back to his First Source, or to Himself, his God-Self. The path that he takes does not too much matter. I do not speak in a religious manner. Man comes here to experience the world he has made. It enlarges his consciousness. But your Christian bible says, "In my Father's house are many mansions". Truly, there are many, many states of con - sciousness; there are many planes - and to go back to the physical, there are many planets. It stretches out to infinity, thereby giving man opportunity to attain experience before he is through. And then the round perhaps starts again."

(L.S.Y. asserted that the best way for the person without occult knowledge to help a person on the 'other side' is by "quiet prayer and thought", and by thinking of the good qualities of the departed one... A few minutes every day is sufficient for the average person). But meditation has to be learned... Besides, what is help, what is aid... There is often great grief for the departed, even though he was very badly treated during his earth life... In case of death people go no miles; they are in much easier call and communication than if they went a few hundred miles of your world ... The world's teachings will have to be changed in many ways if we are to to understand death.....

ANOTHER MYSTERY "SOLVED" --- Dr. C. Manalang, Phillipine Department of Health, "whose studies were sponsored by the Philippine Consul General in Hawaii", says the deaths of some 84 Filipinos in Hawaii are "no longer a mystery". They resulted from nightmares (to quote the UP dispatch). The unfortunate victims stuffed themselves at evening meal; this set off a kind of in - ternal chain reaction, muscular spasms, blood congestion and rupturing of blood vessels - at which climax the stuffee perforce abandoned this stuffy world . Offhand we call this the stuff-n'-nonsense theory - or why this unanimity, coincidence and agreement of time, place, race, and homicidal nightmares - which latter, so far as medical history goes, have never before made any such Jack-the-killer record for them- selves. Also, we have a memo. from contributing Editor David D. Dagmar which says in part:

> "Black magic? -- I was in Honolulu when many of these deaths were taking place. At least four of the victims in one week dropped ddad from no apparent cause" (i.e., did NOT die in bed, or during the night), "but the autopsy showed the same effects or conditions as existed in the other cases. No one familiar with Huna magic would attribute these deaths to any other cause (than a magical operation). There is much resentment against the Filipinos because they are the only natives who go with white girls, and also because they are imported laborers who take work away from the native Hawaiians, now that jobs have become a little scarce."

Mahalo a nui, or thanks very much; that ought to finish off the ahiahi- gobble-gobble theory, which was pupule anyhow (but not, of course, for people who have never heard of death prayers and who think all 'magic' is blah-blah except when it means taking rabbits out of a hat). Our information is, the internal or - gans, usually the liver, were ruptured in all these cases, as if by a heavy blow. HUNA has it, that the Kahuna sent servient spirits against the victim, with command to "enter in and straighten out" - and the Mark P. seance communicators, (in case you're interested) asserted that "a thought form can be solidified by those who know how - can enter anywhere and strike a great blow." Whatever the modus operandi may be, there is ample evidence that the Kahuna magic could be highly effective, and on occasion deadly - tho' the Kahunas never killed without what they considered to be complete justification. ... Recurring for a moment to the subject of nightmare, our own micro-contribution is, that a certain type of nightmare, with a kind of creeping paralysis of the body and inability to move, is really the first stage of an astral or etheric projection; if you refuse to fight this distressing sensation, but simply give yourself over to it, you're likely to pop right out of your body and begin to learn something. But remember there's no danger (or hope) of staying out - at least hardly one chance in a million. We shall now hear from any number of people (and we hope to) who have known all about this form of projection for years, but no one seems to have written it down.

"SIX DAYS TREATMENT FOR FAILING HEART": * In April, 1947, we received from David D. Dagmar certain memoranda concerning the experience of a member of his family who was gravely afflicted with "heart trouble", and who was greatly relieved by taking calcium. The calcium was obtained by drinking milk, and Mr. Dagmar maintained as his own opinion, that a great number of persons suffering from heart ailments were really victims of a nervous asthma, for which calcium was an effective remedy. We are now in receipt of a clipping from the

(next page)

*No article or item in Round Robin is to be construed as giving medical advice. Calcium or any other remedy referred to here should be taken only after con- sultation with a physician. But persons with 'heart trouble' might do well to ques- tion their physicians about the use of calcium. It is not unlikely, as one of our correspondents suggests, that "the M.D's are bilking millions of people with treat- ment for heart disease, when they know the real trouble and the simple cure for it.'

American Weekly, of an article by G.B.Lal, Science Editor, entitled Six Days Treatment for Failing Heart. This article states that "milk and a mercuric drug are the most striking features of a new six days treatment for congestive heart failure, the commonest consequence of heart disease, Public Enemy No. 1." The article begins by describing the "hopeless" hospital case of a woman with failing heart and dropsy. A milk diet, plus use of a "mercurial diuretic" restored her to normal health in less than a month. It goes on to give details of the milk treatment, and states that out of 140 patients of congestive heart failure in New York hospitals, the "new method increased recovery from 47 to 90 per cent, lowered the death rate from 24 to 10 per cent, and shortened the stay in hospital from 18 to six days. It also aids in prevention of recurrence of heart failure." This is known as the Gold treatment, after Dr. Harry Gold of Cornell Medical College, and is discussed in a book by Dr. A.M. Fishberg, entitled "Heart Failure". ... Patients intolerant of milk are given a substitute diet of three bowls of boiled rice with sugar. About a quart of milk is taken every 24 hours.

The article from which we have been quoting, tho' talking a great deal about milk, does not mention calcium at all, or specify what the curative agent in the milk is supposed to be. The treatment includes milk, water, digitalis, and the mercury drug. Evidently this treatment has been known to the medical profession for some time; it has NOT had publicity, and so far as this writer can ascertain it is NOT widely used, despite the appalling inroads of heart disease. It is simple and inexpensive to the patient. Is it possible that this last fact has something to do with the infrequency of its use?

It is perhaps irrelevant to the foregoing, to remark that recently released government statistics show that medical doctors are in the top income brackets, with average incomes of about $17,000 annually.

-or to quote for the second time Sir James Barr, President of the British Medical Association: "In my opinion, during the last 50 years, medicine has produced only two geniuses, Albert Abrams, facile princeps, and Almroth Wright ... yet the former was hounded to death by his medical brethren ..

-of to repeat the following acid jest from the Electronic Medical Digest of May-June 1948. It consists of a quote from an article by Dr. A.H. Merritt in the Journal of the American Medical Association: "Unfortunately none of the patients presented in this study died, and they have no pathologic data to show that the disease process was limited to sclerosis ... etc".

And it is not irrelevant, but a source of satisfaction to us, to refer again to lay discovery, by a Round Robin associate Editor, Mr. Dagmar, of the helpful (the role of calcium in an apparently hopeless case of 'heart disease' (nervous asthma), and to the opportunity afforded Round Robin to at least put the matter on record, without benefit of the AMA.

Editor, Round Robin: With reference to the "solution" of the Macomb fires - What do they think they can poke down our throats. We read first that "even as they watched, the paper or spots would turn brown, smoulder, then burst into flame. Then they say the mystery has been solved - a girl starting fires with matches. Can't you see the wiseacres beaming and saying, "I knew there was a logical reason for it, without stopping to think twice. Consider for a moment the two stories, and one can distinctly smell 'something rotten' ... They evidently forgot to print, that the barn had no loose paper - and it would take some good sleight of hand, if the men stood there and watched the spots take fire, and not see the "13-year-old girl" with her matches. But the girl got her picture in the paper, the farmer got a new house, and the papers got a story. Everybody but me seems happy.

(Mrs A.P., Cedar Rapids)

(Right! The 'explanation' is an insult to the intelligence of low-grade orangoutang).

Editor.

THE MACOMB FIRES:

The facts concerning this matter have been widely printed, nevertheless we summarize the principal points. The phenomena occurred on the Charles Willey farm, 12 miles south of Macomb, Ill. and began about the 9th of August, '48. Small brown spots appeared on the wall paper of the five room cottage, and these became fires. When the wall paper was stripped off by fire chief Wilson, the wood continued to turn brown and burn. Water was used freely, but the fires continued to appear, both on the paper and on bare boards, and in the wood plaster laths. Fire also broke out in a box of newspapers in a chickenhouse, and in the milk house, and in two barns. The house, barns, and chicken house were destroyed. The number of separate fires was estimated at about 200. A window curtain laid over the head of a bed burst into flame.

Apparently the persons living on the farm were Willey and his wife (elderly), a brother-in-law "and his family". Presumably this group included children, but no mention has been made of them in reports so far received.

"Official" and "expert " intelligence has functioned about as usual in such cases, and the press has dutifully reported their comments. But so far, no one has publicly asserted that the whole affair is a fraud, a publicity stunt, a delusion, or mischief making by some naughty-naughty brat. This is quite encouraging to some of us, but very tough on the professional explainers, the news-beagles, and people with spots-before-the-eyes type of mentality generally. "One physicist" however, is quoted as saying that 'the whole affair is a lot of hokum'- which has a familiar ring. Investigators quoted include the State Deputy Fire Marshall; the Chief Technician at Wright Field; the Chief of Intelligence at the same field; a "Chicago scientist"; the National Fire Underwriters; the Macomb Fire Chief; "an insurance broker"; a reporter for the Macomb Journal; "a fire extinguisher salesman" (who happened to be there a load of equipment "but couldn't do anything - most intense heat I ever saw"-says he); finally, the distressed Willey's and all their relatives, neighbors and friends. "Explanations" or admitted guesses began with roach paste, wall paper paste, "special materials" in the walls or in the ground; advanced from this to radio-waves, high frequencies, wireless sabotage experiments, radi-activity; regressed to fly spray and lightning bugs; at present seems to be at the what-the-h... stage and likely to remain there. Three or four investigators have mentioned ghosts in an amused and tolerant manner. Nolan Mitchell, head of National Bureau of Standards fire protection laboratory in Washington clings to the roach-paste theory, but says, if that isn't right, he'll find out what is as soon as he gets all the facts. Hollywood News approves with folded hands and a genufluction, "What story this would have been for some folks, if there hadn't been a scientist handy!" (Or is H.N, being subtle and sardonic?)

Now, does everybody want Round Robin to chirp right up and tell us what really and truly caused these fires? Sorry, but no can do! Partly because we don't know - that is, know in the conclusive, provable, demonstrable sense of that word. Also, because nearly all our readers already know the general backgrounds of such phenomena, and for those who do not it would take all of R.R.'s thirty-odd pages to assemble the data. And if we should do that, the Nolan Mitchell's of this world wouldn't read it, or the newspapers print it, or the tough-minded commonsensible John Smith's in their millions even want to try to understand it. But, and however -

It was maybe two years ago that RR printed a resume account of a series of similar fires near Almeria, Spain. Anything white, as we recall it (paper, garments) went up in smoke, puff! Puff! PUFF! - especially if laid out on the grass. Similar items drift in from time to time; and if you want a sizable list of them, turn through Charles Fort's Book of the Damned - or better. his complete works. Fires start from a great many different causes, and "mysteriousfires", and "fires of un-

known origin" usually remain that way, with the assumption (perfectly legitimate) that IF all the facts were known, the causes would be commonplace and understandable. But now and then fires break out under the very noses of "experts" and other observers, with no understandable cause at all -whence arise the roach-paste and 'special material' schools of thought. But where experts and technicians think first of all of roach-paste and fly spray and radio-waves, there are other reasonably intelligent people who have heard about poltergeist phenomena, maybe read a few recent books about them, and they are likely to think of poltergeists. Not that every garret has its geist, of course, or that all geists burn down garrets; but there really are such tricksy sprites abroad - and every occultist in the world knows it, and most psychic research men too, and all spiritists, and the world literature on the subject would fill a small library. Now, the mischief-making of some of these beings, sometimes, almost certainly depends on using the life-forces of here-living persons. Most of all, they seem to be associated with the life-energies of children and adolescents. When the child or other person is removed, the geist phenomena either follow the person, or cease entirely. Because of this well-known fact, we would like to know whether there were children and/or adolescents at the Willey's farm. It's quite clearly a case for psychic (clairvoyant or mediumistic) investigation - which it probably will NOT receive, and which would be totally disregarded by the "experts" even if made.

This cooperation between a "racketing spirit" and some here-living human, is not conscious and wilful on the part of the latter. It is possible that he is merely being exploited, his vital energies used to produce 'physical phenomena'. It is also possible that the projected double (doppelganger) is the active agent. This subject is of immense complexity - but it is generally believed among students of it, that everyone, from time to time, projects a double of etheric matter, of course from the 'subconscious' levels of the psyche. This double may possess consciousness in its own right, or may move like an automaton in obedience to a subconscious wish. And every wish tends to objectify itself in the etheric world. Persistent subconscious wishes, strongly impelled by emotion, by fear or anger ar hate, do so objectify themselves. From the occult standpoint, it is an obvious and legitimate hypothesis, that some resident of the Willey farm deeply disliked the place, or strongly wanted to go elsewhere, or perhaps hated some member or members of the family group. This wish, perhaps wholly subconscious, became an active entity on the etheric plane of existence. It may or may not have associated its powers with that of some kind of geist or fire elemental. It will be of importance to know, whether fires break out in any other house to which members of the Willey family group have now gone. If the purpose of the double, or of the poltergeist has been accomplished, there will be no more trouble.

Many RR readers who have been following the work done at the Mark Probert experimental seances, will be interested to know that one of the communicators (Professor Luntz) referred to the fires at Macomb, and added:

> "It is in the lower order of the etheric world that you have the activity of the so-called poltergeists, and not from the lower levels of the astral. That is one reason for your misunderstanding of psychic phenomena. This lower etheric world can be and often is entered by projected entities of still-living human beings, and they can create all kinds of mischief."

Well, having mentioned these things to pass the time, as it were, we wait in keen suspence for the analysis of the wall paper, being made at the University of Chicago. Maybe there IS roachpaste in it! Maybe there is phosphorus in the paste! Maybe the paste seeped into the wood in scores of scattered spots only. True, the barn was not papered at all, but Nolan M. say, barn caught fire from the house. No paper in chicken house, but all the Nolans say, chicken coop catch fire from sparks. Who settum fire to other barn, milk house, window curtains? Nobody say nothin'. Round Robin chirp little bit, weak-weak! Pretty soon science man tellum us!

MACOMB FIRES, (Con.)

Correction while we think of it: There are no references to mysterious fires in Fort's Book of the Damned, but there are a dozen or more in his Wild Talents. Matt Weinstock in Los Angeles Daily News, Aug. 25, 1948, refers to these under the heading "Witch Doctor Stuff", in connection with the Macomb happenings. He mentions particularly the Willie Brough case, Turlock, Calif., where five fires broke out in a school room; and a Toronto case where an entranced girl pointed to the ceiling, and the latter "burst into flames". And in February, 1932, "five such fires broke out " in a home in Bladenboro, N.C. (Clip from David Dagmar). The files of the Fortean Society contain references to many similar cases.

Disc Data Various - A column-long clip from the Salt Lake Telegram, latter part of July, '48, reports "balls of fire" over Georgia, seen by 15 people in the Atlanta area, two "rocket ships" seen by two fliers over Alabama, various "silvery" objects moving westward during daylight hours, over the Pacific coast (two of which, incidentally, passed to the north of San Diego, moving against the prevailing wind); a "meteor that climbed and banked" over Alabama - and the unblushing comment of a well-known aeronautical engineer, that "It could be men from Mars .. We could build such a planet ship today ... we may see the day when we shall join hands with Russia to defend this planet against attacks from space." But what bothered the well-known A.E. most, was that these strange craft make no noise - and do not answer the description of any secret weapon developed by the United States.

Interest in VENUS, however (tut-tut!) remains top-priority among Wise Ones Who Really Know. Dr. J. Hugh Pruett, regional director of the American Meteor Society, carries on with the pronouncement that the "silvery object" floating westward over Yakima, Wash. "may have been light from the planet Venus! So far this is the very best bet of the astronomers also; odds against it not more than 100,000,000,000,000 to 1. (Clip from Dr. Fehring).

Radio active Cloud ..... Several clips have been sent RR concerning efforts of French scientists to study a radio-active cloud over central France. "More than fifty flights have been made to study this formation". It is believed to be a "residue of a cloud which became active after the Bikini bomb-test in 1946". We print this partly because RR reported the alleged existence of a similar cloud over Southern California, not long after the Bikini experiment - and was accused of sensationalism, received far more jeers than cheers. But if French scientists have been up fifty times to investigate a "canard" they're even more gullible than our spots-before-the-eyes savants, hitherto ne-sub-ultra in such matters.

But there are some -------- We believe Ouspensky's Tertium Organum is the most important book in 20th century thinking; Eddington ranks close, so does Alexander, perhaps Whitehead. Let us add Gustaf Stromberg, a great astronomer and author "The Soul of the Universe". "At death" (he writes)"our brain-field is not destroyed; all our memories are indelibly engraved in this field ...In the non-physical realm lies the ultimate origin of all things - of energy, matter, organization, and life, and of consciousness ... Science makes spiritual idealism inevitable." Voices from the 'other side' repeat these dicta incessantly, in a hundred different ways ... This reminds us to say, Sir Richard Tukes "After Materialism, What?" should be required reading for everybody able to read - that is, not merely spell words and repeat sounds ...

Too good to keep- RR friend B.F.G. sends an article to CORONET magazine, gets it back with the following notation: "Thank you - but we wouldn't touch anything on spiritualism with a ten-foot pole." Maybe CORONET itself should be rated among the untouchables, among the millions of spiritualists and students of psychism generally... And yet this shrinking violet of journalism printed "Forgotten Mysteries" (DeWitt Miller) for years, and uses the admirable mystery articles of RR friend Vincent Gaddis. -- Oh, well!

Prophecies of the Bell Witch

"The spirit then said that the most unfortunate occurrence in the history of the United States would be a war between the states, resulting in making the negro slaves as free as their masters. It said that it had been already so determined by the Master of All Things, and that while the loss would be great to the South, in the end it would be better to free the negroes. (Date of prophecy, 1828).

"At the next conference the Spirit said: The United States will have wars, but they will not be serious until a great war which will likely involve nearly the whole world will occur ... Millions of men will be killed and years of suffering invade every nation ... Again I am telling you that (your country) can never recover except by a complete spiritual adjustment. For some time after this war there will be threats and signs of another great upheaval, which if it comes will be far more devastating than the one which the world thought too terrible for the mind to grasp. Your country would have to be entirely different from other countries if there is not a revolution, (though) it may not be one of blood. You may be sure there will be a great social change, and the Government itself will undergo trials unexpected. I shall be there at that time; there will be thousands of spirits unrecognized. ..... The people of this world must not forget, this world will surely come to an end. If the scientists will dig under the right parts they will find the remains of destroyed civilizations hundreds of thousands of years ago... At no time will the inhabitants of the world as a whole believe there will be an end to the world; at the time when they think least of it, the end will come. Worlds many times larger than this have been destroyed so suddenly that it was only like a powder-pan flash. No one can foretell when the end of a world will be or if its destruction will be complete; it can only be said that all the habitable part of this world has been destroyed. ... When a world becomes so enlightened that there are no more inventions worth having, and the poor become helpless and starving, the rich thinking only of themselves, and suffering becomes so widespread over the world that the Creator will no longer permit it, then prepare for the end. When this world is destroyed again, it would seem that it will be complete destruction and never again be habitable.....

"Your future generations will need help, for as sure as the world now stands those living at the time we have discussed will live longer in a few years than any of their ancestors, including those of Bible times, ever lived; they will have such responsibilities that they, themselves, will feel crushed and worn out. America is an old country, inhabited millions of years before your people ever heard of it by a superior race; they were destroyed to be succeeded by others. They had the wonderful buildings, great schools and mighty machinery that this era will acquire before it passes, but all that did not prevent their destruction. Their scientists told them how long the world had stood; that it would not last forever, but so many millions of years that they need not think of it. You are being told the facts -- at the very height of their civilization, both North and South America were destroyed, and John, the largest portion, was inhabited by a civilization far superior to any now on earth. They were destroyed by a quavering and shaking of the earth --- a change of the entire surface of the earth. After this came other races ..... which became highly civilized. .....

"Some of these countries (now existing) will, within the next century, (the 20th) prohibit religion of any kind being taught; will allow all kinds of sins that are unlawful in this country; at that time the whole world will be near the ultimate finish ..... Lack of love for one another will be the worst situation ... there will be droughts and floods .... Men will heed nothing but science and finances; the misery following will be fearful to contemplate ....."

(THE BELL WITCH, Charles Bailey Bell, M.D., 1934. Pages 198, 202, 206 - 221 ff.)

Acknowledgments to Ella Young, author of FLOWERING DUSK, etc.

"THE LITTLE PEOPLE "

Their Role in Connection with Physical Phenomena.

(From The Mediumship of Arnold Clare by Harry Edwards. Rider & Co. London). Communicator: "Peter"):

"I have referred on several occasions to the "little people" (for want of a better term). They are known best by the name of Nature Spirits, or collectively as Elementals. They are very similar to the human race but possess ... bodies slightly out of proportion with features that are characteristically the same no matter what particular force they represent. Temperamentally they are light-hearted. They completely lack moral character, as you know. They are neither essentially neither good nor bad. They are ever ready to obey the direction of the human mind wherever there is close kinship between the human mind and themselves.

"They are able to manipulate the natural ethers with the utmost ease, producing natural things such as stone, flowers, and all things like that.

"In the scale of evolution they stand between the animal realm and man himself. The one goal they desire to attain is the human form complete. In the seance room, so far as physical phenomena are concerned, their services are very necessary; in fact, no work could be achieved without their aid in producing solid objects brought from a distance" (apports) "In many other forms of phenomena their services are utilized, but always under the direction of the Control. They love to disport themselves by simple antics, such as causing things to move; and invariably their presence is betrayed by the aimless moving of objects in the vicinity of the medium.

"They, too, are responsible for the maintenance of seance conditions; and their services are quickly withdrawn if any offense is given by anyone present, unless the Control has instituted some form of discipline. They are subject to discipline, but that is only in relation to their normal work, which ranges from the geological realm up to all the activities of Nature, including flowers and insects; they are even associated with the air you breathe and the water you drink."

(Question: That explains the movements we sometimes see in the presence of a medium when he is normal?).

"That is right. These same little people can be pressed into service even for certain types of healing; but their services are not often used - only for psychic healing; and then for ailments affecting chiefly the bony structure and deformities.

"To sum it all up, you might say they are the soul of nature. As man himself has many complex parts, so has the soul of nature many parts working together to accomplish something far too immense for the ordinary mind to grasp. They are not left towander aimlessly in space but are directed by superior intelligences with only one purpose in view, development and progress along the road of the whole realm of nature .. toward the perfect plan ordained by God...

"A word about the etheric body. I will remind you that the etheric body has no characteristics - that is, personality or temperament. It has no reactions similar to to that of the soul. It is purely bound ether that might be likened to an expanding bag taking the outline of the physical body. It appears to be about the same viewed from whatever angle, never reaching more than about three inches from the body, when the person is normal in health and well fed and rested. It varies according to the vitality ... and has no color change; it is always a misty silvery color. It loses its shape as decomposition (of the dense body) sets in, and is always associated with the body until decay is complete ... Cremation is excellent provided always that three days have elapsed. (In graveyards) there is an etheric mist made up of etheric odors from decaying bodies..."

YE EDITOR COMPLAYNETH -

The present writer has asserted more than once, in print, that the case for survival and communication may be regarded as established, and for this he is sometimes taken severely to task. We regret to rethresh old straw, but perhaps a page or two here will obviate some of the criticism and correspondence.

When we speak of "proof" and of an "established case" we are using the words legitimately and in the only way they can be used outside of mathematics and the 'positive' sciences. The proof for survival of the personality is legalistic in nature; i.e.,it consists in a preponderance of evidence beyond reasonable doubt. The words preponderance, evidence, and reasonable have no fixed values, even in law, where there are rules and precedents to serve as guides. One man's 'reasonable doubt' is absurd to another, and 'evidence' acceptable to one is rejected by his opponent.

When we say "the case is established" or "proved", obviously we do NOT mean that every sane person is compelled to acceptance and agreement. Decisions of fact and law by even the highest tribunals do not carry such certainty and compulsion as that. Even in the phsyical sciences there is no such think as a basic theory which is undisputed. Malisoff goes so far as to say, "facts which cannot be questioned are almost mythical". Mathematics and the nature and theory of logic are no exceptions. These statements are truistic and I cannot take space to elaborate on them here. Yet there are persons who will parrot," Survival certainly is not proved, because, look at Dr. C. (for example)! He's a celebrated student of such matters, and he doesn't accept it!" Such persons, to speak rudely, are talking fools' talk and have no power of critical thinking whatever. Probably every proposition which they think has been proved, could be controverted by similar reasoning - by finding somebody of distinction who did not accept the majority opinion.

When we speak of survival as proved, we mean almost exactly the same as if we said "organic evolution is proved." One would have to define evolution (as one would have to define personality also), but after that, the meaning is, that the majority of biologists the world over are in substantial agreement as to the existence of a certain body of data, and that these data point strongly to an 'evolutionary' sequence of organic forms. There is an agreement of informed opinion - and that is as far as "proof" goes in such matters. * This is not a matter of proving the value of the square on the hypothenuse, or the results of combining sodium and chlorine. And with regard to the data of spiritism, we take the stand that the records(i.e., expressed and recorded opinions) show, that the great majority of long-time investigators, who are also regarded as highly competent in other fields of research, not only accept the objective and non-fraudulent character of all the major physical phenomena of spiritism, but also either accept outright, or regard as highly probable the spiritistic explanation (i.e., the communication and manifestation of excarnate human beings).

People who think this is an over-statement almost always turn out, on further acquaintance, to be grossly ignorant of the literature and history of spiritism and psychic research. It is the people who need "not an answer but an education" who provoke articles like this one, which waste the time of both the writer and of all intelligent readers.

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* This is an illustration only; we are not implying that there is actually any notable agreement among biologists about organic evolution, either as to evidences, mechanisms, the causes of mutation, or the significance of tho whole body of facts under study.

(next page)

If we were to compile a list of, say, 500 or 1000 names of persons of education and good repute, each of whom has spent at least five years in the study of psychic and spiritistic phenomena, and who ended by taking the favorable position referred to - we would nevertheless be confronted by people who say, "Ah, but what about all the learned men who have investigated, and have decided it was all fraud or delusion. You do not make a list of their names." The last statement is true, for the simple reason that no such list exists, or ever will exist. The statement is sheer invention, and no one familiar with the subject or with the first principles of logic will propound such poppycock. But the data for our own statement is available - which does NOT mean we are going to spend hours and days compiling data to convince every casual sceptic. Does not the adage run

One man can lead a horse to the river's brink
But twenty thousand men can't make him think -

For the modest sum of five dollars, however, we'll send reading lists to people who thirst for knowledge to that extent and who simply can't get to a library or write to responsible publishers. And for those who can't read we have sympathy, for those who don't want to and won't we recommend goose livers, filet mignon, and the joie de vivre generally.

Max Freedom Long (author and scholar, good friend of RR) sometimes complains a little, that people seem to think he invented the whole Huna-Kahuna system himself, and should be able to explain everything, work magic, 'prove' everything in his own person - instead of functioning as a research specialist in an obscure and newly developed field. In a somewhat similar vein we inquire: Why attack the Round Robin editor as being a charlatan and a nitwit? Why waste time on such small fry? Why not take up the case of some distinguished and worthy opponent - say, Lombroso("I am ashamed and aggrieved at having opposed" psychic facts and communication with the "dead") - or Professor Ochorowicez ("I am ashamed of myself and others" for branding Crookes as a fool") - or Professor Pictet ("I am constrained to believe by the invincible logic of facts") - or Lodge ("I tell you we do persist. Communication is possible" - or Sir William Barrett ("I am absolutely convinced") - or Geley, or Richet, A.R.Wallace, Maxwell, Flammarion, Crawford, Joire, Bozzano, Osty, Schrenck-Notzing, Hyslop, de Rochas, Meyers, Stead, de Brath, Bragdon, W.F.Prince, Hudson, L. Chevreuil, - or any other of hundreds of names easily gleaned from Fodor's Encyclopedia or Carrington's Story of Psychic Science.*A.T.Baird, in his "One Hundred Cases for Survival" (1944) remarks: "A thousand equally good cases could be produced as easily - I am embarrassed withthe wealth of material and my difficulty has been in rejecting - perhaps some one with more time and patience ... will publish 'Five Thousand Cases for Survival', and even then there will be plenty in reserve for the Oliver Twist-like critics. To overthrow any of these men-of-reputation, make him out a fool or a liar, would be a scholarly and worthwhile work, IF it could be accomplished - certainly far more worth while than to combat and discomfit the editor of Round Robin... And we repeat once again, that since there is no altefnative explanation for a very great mass of phenomena, other than the spiritistic one, and since the latter has support of the most formidable sort, the burden of proof is now on the sceptic. Let the objector give us some plausible explanation of his own, applicable to the whole mass and cumulative effect of the evidential material, and not to some isolated instance only.

* Names, etc.,sup. -- We do not, of course, mean that all the investigators mentioned would subscribe to any such asinine statement as 'all the phenomena I have witnessed are produced by excarnate humans' - or even 'by supernormal means', or come to any other identical conclusion in any formal expression. They do agree that the physical phenomena are, on occasion, genuine (objective and non-fraudulent), and that many of these have no known explanation apart from the spiritistic, and that this explanation is (a) possible (b) plausible (c) valid and proven (respectively). Many a widely accepted 'scientific' pronouncement has far less support than this.

ML

THE BARDO THODOL *

The Tibetan Book of the Dead -

The diagram on the following page gives a general idea of the teachings of the Tibetan Book of the Dead, parts of which are read to the dying or newly dead person for his guidance and instruction. It follows rather closely the translation published by Evans-Wentz, and made for him by his Tibetan teacher. We shall not take space in this issue of Round Robin to summarize the teaching. Our object is to point out the relative position of the Etheric Realm. At the time of death, or departure from the Nara Loka, the Self-consciousness passes briefly to the highest Central Realm; but if (as is usually the case) the person cannot maintain himself there, he may enter any one, or a succession of the other Realms or Lokas. If reincarnation on the earth plane takes place, the personality is said to 'jump' the etheric gap - just as it 'jumped' nearly the whole frequency band at the moment of death. However, an entity reincarnating from the Southern Realm (Astral) may be able to maintain himself in the Higher Etheric -- and it is from this region (if we understand the Communicators correctly) that the Flying Discs and other strange sky-craft are said to come.

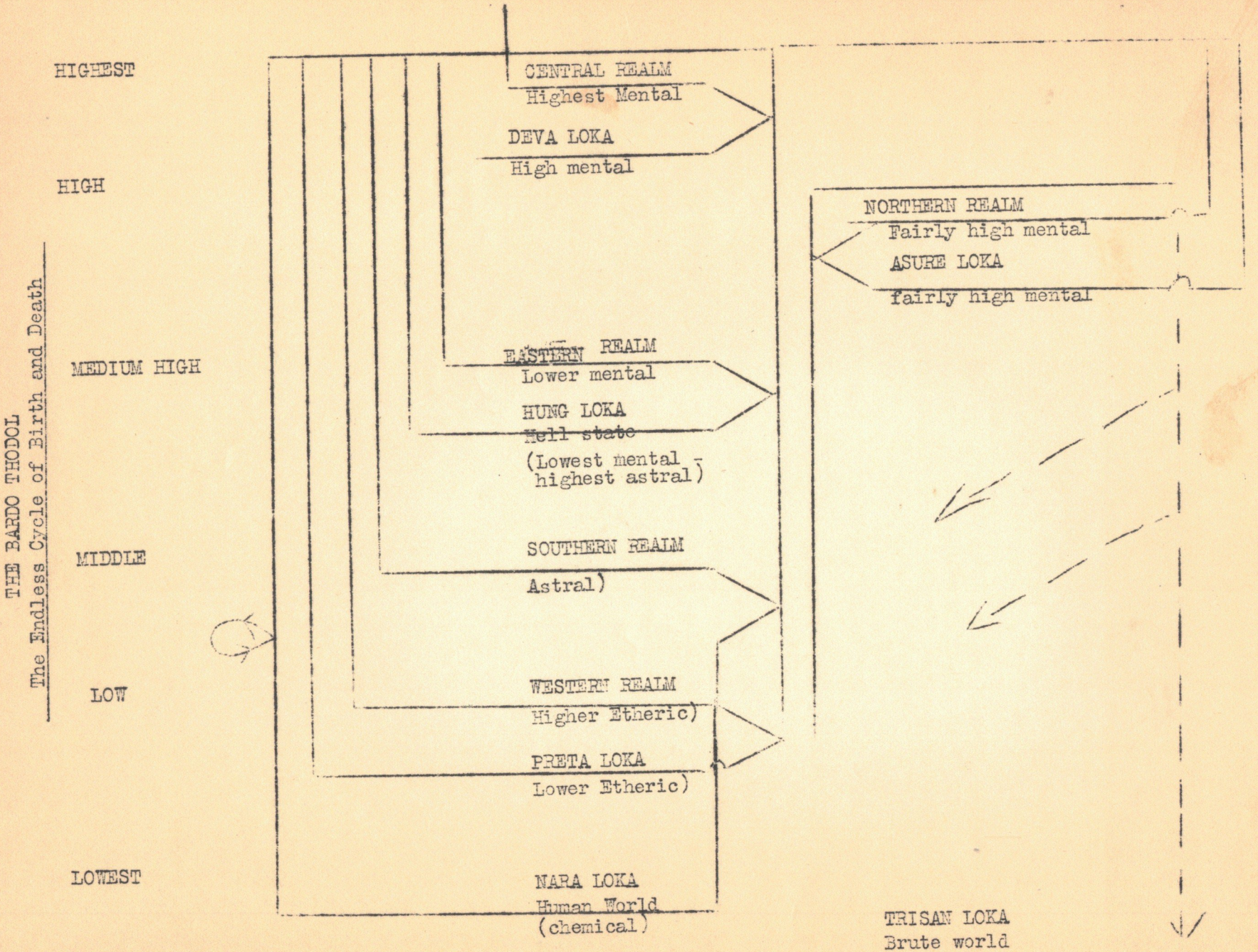
If, as this writer now believes, these craft are truly of etheric origin, it is going to be a difficult task to make the idea intelligible to most western readers. A diagram, in spite of its shortcomings, is often a great help. And we have printed on the second page following, another diagram drawn by the medium Mark Probert while under partial control. This shows the spacial interpenetration of the etheric, astral, and physical spheres. There are some points of contradiction between the teachings of the M.P. communicators and our own understanding of the concepts embodies in the Bardo Thodol, but it is likely that closer study would clear up most of these. And now we quote a few lines from the Communicator known in the seances as Professor Luntz, who was a Professor of Theology during his earth life:

" Let us move our consciousness clock back a moment in what you know as time. With the physical eye you would see nothing but a vast formless void. But let us use an eye of higher rate of vibration and look again. Now what would you see? A sight so astounding, so majestic, that were you to see it while still in the physical body and be unprepared, you would indeed go mad. For now you are looking into the Etheric World. The size alone of all in it would stagger your imagination. The vibrating, pulsating, irridescent colors, teeming plant life, the animals and birds, the size and beauty of buildings - libraries, lecture halls, schools of learning, vast cathedrals, giant organs, orchestras consisting of every known instrument and of many you know nothing of - tens of thousands playing at one time, and the music coming from them would make you want to weep your life away with its power and sweetness and perfect harmony. Men and women of great stature, perfect of body and mind, in flowing robes of brilliant colors - some with mighty heads of golden hair, red hair or black hair flowing down their backs in living gleaming waves, and rich flowing beards that look like fine-spun silk; stately women with skin like living satin and glowing with health ... The ether you would breathe would be purer than a babe's breath, for the air in this world is not particulate as your scientists understand that word. Things do not move around with directional motion, but by vibration-motion only; in essence all forces are one; the wish to move a thing merges the energy-force of the mover into the thing or place he desires to move to - the motion of the neutron and proton, a complete exchange of energies, one thing becoming the other thing.....

Such, according to the Communicator, is the world and the people of Etheria, which interpenetrates with our own plane of dense matter - and such is the clue to the science of the future. We offer it to our readers, and to our BSR Associates everywhere, with both hands, hopeful that even so small a glimpse may lead us all to wider vistas of understanding.

ML

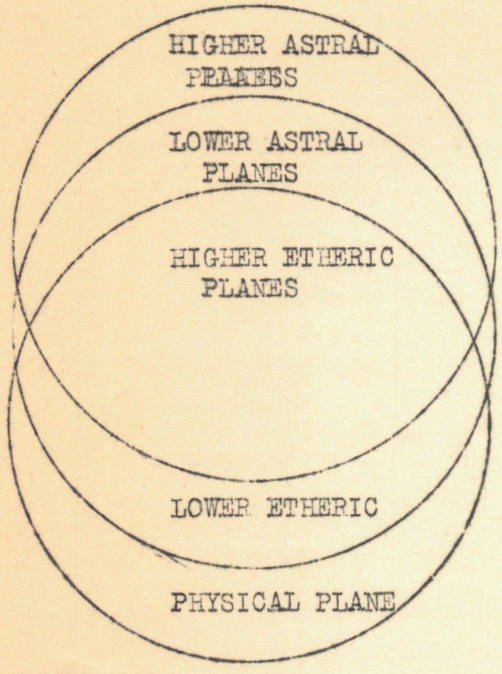
*Diagram by courtesy of Millen Cooke)


THE BARDO THODOL
The Endless Cycle of Birth and Death
HIGHEST
HIGH
MEDIUM HIGH
MIDDLE
LOW
LOWEST
CENTRAL REALM
Highest Mental
DEVA LOKA
High mental
NORTHERN REALM
Fairly high mental
ASURE LOKA
fairly high mental
EASTERN REALM
Lower mental
HUNG LOKA
Hell state
(Lowest mental
highest astral)
SOUTHERN REALM
Astral)
WESTERN REALM
Higher Etheric)
PRETA LOKA
Lower Etheric)
NARA LOKA
Human World
(chemical)
TRISAN LOKA
Brute world

THE "ETHERIC HYPOTHESIS"

With special Reference to Recent Sky Phenomena

The phenomena of the 'flying discs' and other strange sky-craft have only one explanation - and this unfortunately will be no explana - tion at all to those who are unable to understand the terms which must used, or who reject the methods of psychic investigation which must be employed. But for the assistance of all who are understanding and tolerant in such matters, the investigators of the BOSRA group have obtained the following diagram and comments:



THE INTERPENETRATION OF THE PLANES -

"Physically considered, these 'planes' are distinguished by varying rates of vibration; spiritually considered they are varying states of conscious awareness."

"Substance as earth men know it takes on the tangibility suited to earth consciousness on the lower etheric, and it is from this region that your sky phe - nomena burst into view, and also your physical psychic phenomena. At death, man's sojourn in the lower etheric is very short - lived. But he does not enter the higher etheric, but goes right on through it, with no consciousness of it, to the lower astral. Later, and depending on his mental activity, he enters the higher spheres of the astral. But in order to make any contact other than mental, he must make it through and by the lower etheric."

The reader should observe the extent to which the 'sphere' or 'plane' of the physical world is interpenetrated by the etheric regions. All material existents of our plane issue from the etheric and become materialized for our senses. And when a human being reincarnates, he must enter the lower etheric levels of matter in order to do so - thus obeying the common law. Etheric matter, like the matter of the still 'higher' levels, is susceptible of being moulded by the 'energy'-action of thought. Dwellers on the etheric construct dwellings, houses, sky - craft by thinking out the pattern, and drawing into it the heavier parti- cles of matter. All objects of our world have been created in this way, by man himself.

Department of This-'n-That:

Great Balls of Fire!

Strange objects in sky over Michigan -- big ball of fire with a flaming tail shaped like a feather and more than a half mile long -- came "from the lake and disappeared over Muskegon at about 500 miles per hour". Reported by Ryan Selvius of 868 Alger St. SE, Grand Rapids, Mich. who was aboard an airliner. He says other passengers verified his observations. Also George Tomaszek, 250 Straight Ave. SW, saw a "blue ball with a tail of fire" about the same time - and while on his way to church, too. (Items from Grand Rapids Press, Aug. 30, '48).

'Large round disc, travelling high and fast, apparently made of metal and reflecting the sunlight' - seen over Roseburg, Ore. Aug. 26, at 3:58 p.m. by "Charles Hodson and five other carpenters working at the Sutherlin School'. (Odd thing is, so many people have spots before their eyes at the same time and the spots all look alike. Coinicdence has a long arm - but not that long!) Clip from an Oregon paper: Correspondents please make memo of name of paper and date, and add their own names.

Flying silver saucer moving east to west over Langland Island, reported by a woman to a Copenhagen paper. "At the same time, five submarines of unknown nationality, and of a type previously unseen in Danish waters, were observed off Denmark and reported to the Danish Navy Ministry (ace and five-spot hallucinations, no doubt!)

Ghost Fires Solved: The inevitable, the expected, and the consoling has happened; a 13-year-old girl has 'confessed' to setting all the mysterious fires at Macomb, Ill., after being quizzed (or primed) for an hour or so by 'investigators' Of course, this alleged 'confession' fits in with the reported facts about as well as it would with icebergs off the Galapagos or a rain of codfish on Calcutta - but there's one point worth attention; she hated farm life and wanted to go places. A child or adolescent with a strong wish fixation, plus-or-minus an efficient poltergeist, are probably the governing factors in the whole affair.

"Someone acting as an involuntary medium for a fire-elemental", writes RR friend B.F. Greenlee - which comes to pretty much the same thing... Also to-be-expected were the "five ghost fires" that broke out at the home of a neighbor where the Wiley family took refuge.

Misplaced Optimism - or plain lying is the only explanation of recent more-or-less official attempts to minimize the effect of atomic explosions. And Dr. Albert Bellamy, Dean of the division of life sciences at UCLA, says the radiation effects are far more deadly than those of blast or burn - and cannot be seen, felt, tasted or smelt, and are effective beyond the blast range; they include destruction of cells, tissue, and bone marrow. "An underwater atomic explosion near the Port Hueneme Naval Station" (as proposed) "would place that area off-limits for human beings for about 50 years". (Ventura Free Press. Clip from D. Frood.)

M A U R .... Or what's in a name? Discs sighted off MAURY Island, June 24, 1947; navy ocean survey ship, The MAURY investigates the "undersea mountain" picked up by radar of California coast, Nov. 24, 1947; French flying boat lost, en route to MAURitania, French West Africa, Aug. 2, 1948; barge MAUnee Island exploded and sank near American Legion Island, Ohio River, Aug. 16, 1948... Any additions, subtractions, objurgations, animadversions? As the fox said of the hencoop, "I think there's something in it, but not sure what" (Aesop Redivivus, A.D. - anno diaboli - 1948).

"Magic Cells: We don't know what Farmer Brown has gotten hold of, or whether he has hold of anything - except the incredulous interest of the U.S. Food and Drug administration. But anyhow, the FDA has a flock of chickens, and the chickens have coccidosis (whatever that is!), and the FDA is feeding them, or

rather half of them, on Farmer Brown's treated water, which he claims possesses curative powers, increases crops and milk production, and gives roosters something to crow about. According to the Daily Hampshire Gazette it also "stuns" the scientists, though some of them are evidently still dimly conscious and able to feed the chickens if nothing more. But in 2-3 weeks, when the results come in, we shall know all - maybe. (Clip from Mrs. H. Lotreck).

And from Kennebunkport Maine .. Author Kenneth Roberts, a Federal Game Warden, two women dowsers, members of the ASPR, a geologist, a college Dean, and one James Jenks with a "portable electro-cardiograph", all did a-dowsing go at Kennebunkport; present also were "neighbors and members of the press." Boston Traveler gives 2-3 colums to it. Radiesthesia (pendulum) also figured in. ASPR experts refused to express any opinion as to results, but neither they nor the various "lay observers" seem to have any knowledge of the books-full of data on this subject, but keep on threshing old straw from sheer force of habit, or maybe some kind of vow or membership-pledge ("Ducdame, ducdame"-) with a pin-wheel for a symbol... The identification of dowsing with radiesthesia may be taken as established, but very few dowsers have found out that they do NOT need to hold a fork-twig or anything else, in order to get results. (Clip from Mrs H.L.)

Poltergeist De-geisted- The Poltergeist Psychoanalyzed is the heading of a nine-page pamphlet by Nandor Fodor, Ll.D. (reprint from the Psychiatric Quarterly). Dr. Fodor disposes of at least one of these troublesome entities very neatly - since it turned out to be a projected duuble, or at least projected energy of some kind, emanating from the patient herself. In fact "when the knocks on the door became too loud, she put out a sign 'please ring the bell' - and the ghost never knocked again." Dr. Fodor, who was Director of the International Institute for Psychical Research for 4-5 years, should know his poltergeists - and very few people doubt that the energies of the here-living are bound up with these phenomena. It is, however, most surprising to read his unqualified remark, " I consider them to be manifestations of major mental disorder of schizophrenic, though temporary, character, not the product of anything supernatural". It is impossible to understand what Dr. Fodor means by 'supernatural' (a word which has no philosophical or scientific status at all) - and equally difficult to imagine how many hundreds of cases of poltergeist phenomena can be explained by "the dynamic psychology" of the Freudian tradition. The distinguished compiler of the Encyclopedia of Psychic Science should certainly be aware of the dangers of over-simplification. In all probability, poltergeist manifestations are at times expremely complex, and involve low-grade entities of various types. The fact that these latter can be controlled, very often, through hypnosis and psychoanalysis of the patient, does NOT imply that the latter's 'subconscious' dynamism is the sole source of trouble.

Round Robin IV-8 will contain, among other articles, An Outline of the Metatronic Theory, by John Hilliard -- Experiments on the Effect of Heated Stones on the Human Epidermis, by Dr. Philip Haley, (reference to fire-walking) -- a further explanation of the Bardol Thodol, by Millen Cooke - Dr. Abrams and the Theory of Electronics -- Tyrrell's Personality of Man, reviewed by P.J. Rasch - - Reports and comments by BSR Associates.... In sending clips, please be sure that you include a memo. of name of paper, date of publication, and your own name

Chairman Egerton Sykes, F.R.G.S., wishes us to state that the hournal RESEARCG will be known as ATLANTEAN RESEARCH, and that he will send a copy of the current issue (40¢) to any genuine inquirer sending international reply coupons to the value of 15¢. Address Mr. Sykes at 9 Markham Square, Lon. SW 3,

OTHER MATERIAL OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO FRIENDS OF BSRA -

We spoke on another page of the multiplicity of 'phenomena' which should be investigated and studied by competent observers. The average person who is not directly concerned with such matters has little idea of the flood of 'incredible' and 'impossible'happenings that come to the notice of the 'borderland scientist', or scientific occultist or occult scientist. Many of these facts are of great importance to humanity, when their implications are understood, and I make memo.of a few of them:

The phenomena of Mendocino County. Nature spirits, etherialized and materialized forms of elemental entities, of deceased Indians and other persons, all kinds of curious auditory and visual effects. Some phenomena appear only to persons with a degree of clairvoyance, but other seem observable by any non-sensitive also. We have many reports but cannot evaluate them. On the whole it seems probable that there is a peculiar interpenetration of the etheric and dense planes of matter. The investi - gation is NOT a job for enthusiastic amateurs ...

The Vortexes - at Grant's Pass, another in California, a whole series of them in the Ojai Valley, several others at widely separated points. Distortion of gravity and other physical laws. At one vortex, not publicly known, there is at times an 'etheric opening' permitting vision into the lower etheric: entities and various phenomena. (Our report comes from a recognized scholar and scientist....

Fire phenomena: there are enough instances similar to the recent fires at Macomb, Ill., to merit a long article. These phenomena are not new, despite the in - articulate stutterings of the press and of various 'experts' - but every new case should be investigated. The general occult conditions are understood, at least in part, but much remains to be learned. ...

The "Zombies": "Soulless Ones". Clairvoyance is not required to detect their presence, tho' much more is revealed to extended vision. The gathering of these entities in certain regions, as around Santa Monica, Calif.,is an unpleasant portent of events to come. There should be a kind of psychic secret service detailed to this problem ....

Radiesthesia: This subject is having an enormous development, is penetrating medical practise, is used for every conceivable purpose, seems to connect with clairvoyance, telepathy, precognition, psychometry, ESP generally. The subject is immensely complicated but the basic principles are established and generally accepted (except, of course, by the American Medical Association).

Huna Research: The progress of this ancient healing magic, its achievements and profound human benefits are truly surprising. Instant healing, and healing by psychic means are facts denied only by the ignorant; here we have a workable and practicable sytem which can be employed by the western mind. Occult interest of course is in the underlying principles and psychological concepts, and the operations whereby Power can be brought through to the plane of dense matter. The M.L. Publications could fill every issue with Huna news alone. Secret Science Behind Miracles (Max Freedom Long) is a 'must' book for Borderland Sciences.

We have said nothing so far of the discs and other strange air-craft, which brought BSRA into existence and which are its immediate concern. This is extraordinary and extremely important business - the greatest news story of centuries, which our "news agencies" have not yet discovered. The data have been presented many times and there is no need to argue the case for its factuality. But the only explanation

which covers the ground - actually the only one so far propounded - is the etheric source idea advanced and consistently maintained by the communicators at the Mark P. seances. And so far, there are no data which contradict it. When - or if - their significane is understood, scientific ideas and religious and philosophic concepts alike are due for radical revision. Furthermore, the facts open up a chapter of occult knowledge almost unknown in the West. BSRA investigators, however, are not committed to any 'final' explanation; we are simply in search of the truth, or of such fragments and aspects of it as we may be capable of discovering and understanding. If the whole concept of etheric origins is wrong, it is important that the fact be discovered and announced - and no other course is possible for any honest-minded investigator.

We are speaking of some matters in this bulletin, which many persons find entirely incredible and fantastic. We assure you that the data themselves are strongly substantiated. The problems do not lie in their factuality, but in their interpretation. We offer the viewpoints which are presently held by BSRA founders and by the M.L. publications - but not in any spirit of dogmatism. We welcome all honest investigation and criticism, but have no time for profitless controversy - and have to make our own decision as to when a question is or is not 'profitable'.

As to progress in the experimental seances (mediumship of Mark Probert): Most of the readers of Round Robin and Flying Roll know that these have been held weekly for about two years, and that much of the material has been published in a series of Reports. To those who reject psychic and spiritistic methods, we can only say that many research specialists, and educated and 'professional' people, find these Reports of much value and interest. They have wide application to many scientific and philosophic problems, and are not 'message circles' nor religionistic in nature.

Recently the Controls have begun dictation of a proposed book manuscript called The Rise and Fall of Man. Though only a little of this has been received, its content is in many ways extraordinary, and not at all in the vein of what might be called 'orthodox occultism'. The communicators are extremely realistic and critical in tone - and so far at least have shown themselves modest, dependable, and learned.

Extraordinary experimental work is under way, with reference to the effect of human 'magnetism' or psycho-physical energies on plants and germinating seeds. This kind of work can be carried on without expense by any private investigator.

A long account of the Morley-Martin experiments, and of the Littlefield experiments was recently published in Flying Roll (Beta III). These deal respectively with the a-biogenetic origins of life (acari), and with the effect of mental energies on the formation of crystals as observed under the compound microscope, and extensively photographed. This long neglected data, completely authentic, is revolutionary in its implications. The experiments can be repeated without elaborate equipment, and deserve close and long-continued study by BSRA and all their friends interested in this field.

Instrumental communication with other planes or with the 'memory of Nature' is being studied in various quarters; so too with the spontaneous appearance of materialized forms in magnetic fields ...

We have itemized a few of the subjects which can properly engage the attention of BSRA - in addition to the immediate problem of the discs. But we must ask everyone not to send us lengthy inquiries for data and references; we are swamped with clerical work and constantly hampered by lack of funds. If you are going in for some special line of investigation, let us know so that we can put you in touch with others of like interests. Membership cards in BSRA will soon be issued. If you wish to subscribe to Round Robin, Flying Roll, or the Seance Reports - of course that will help meet expenses. But BSRA stands on its own feet - and we regret that we have to ask for even the dues heretofore mentioned.

M.L.

- PUBLICATIONS -

ERGOT - Bimonthly; $2.00 yr. For students of Mysticism, Occultism, Cosmic Universalism and Life. To be published for five years only. Post Office Box 83. Stock - bridge, Mass.

Bobbitt Agency. 1609 - 10th Ave. No. Nashville, 8, Tenn. Large list of psychic and occult magazines. Send six or more names of people interested in such subjects and receive copy of Psychic News and publication lists.

STARRY CROSS NEWS LETTER: Devoted to more humane institutional care. Box 188, Great Barrington, Mass. $1.00 yr. (Not a paid advertisement).

THE PSYCHIC WORLD: Bi-monthly. 25¢ copy, $1.50 yr. 210 - 5th Ave. Suite 1102, New York 10 - N.Y. (No.1- Vol. I)
THE BEACON. Monthly. Arcane School. 11 W. 42nd St. New York 18. 15¢ - $1.50 yr.

OCCULT BOOKS: An increasing demand for books on occult subjects requires speciali - zation. We have a large stock of occult items. Catalogues issued. Occult Sciences Library Service. 15 No. Maryland Ave., Atlantic City, N.J.

THE SPHINX: Quarterly, mimeographed. Edited and published by F.E. Rogers. About 40 pages. $2.00 yr. (4 issues). Box 128, No.Park Sta. San Diego 4, Calif.

Association for Research and Enlightenment, Inc. (ARE). The ARE publishes a monthly Bulletin, presenting information obtained clairvoyantly by the late Edgar Cayce. Single copies, 25¢. Virginia Beach, Va.

THE THEOSOPHICAL FORUM: Monthly. Admirably printed and illustrated, scholarly in content. Published by the Theosophical University Press, at Covina, Calif. (This is not a paid advertisement).

THE CANADIAN THEOSOPHIST: Monthly, 20¢ copy; $2.00 yr. 29 Rebecca St. Hamilton, Ont. (Canada.

KOSMON PIONEER BULLETIN: Published monthly by the Essenes of Kosmon, North Salt Lake, Utah. Single, 10¢ Yr. $1.00 3 yrs. $2.00

NEW AGE INTERPRETER: "Issued every month or two and devoted to studies designed to to aid the modern seeker to a spiritual reorientation in the light of the Ageless Wisdom." About 21 pp. Copy 15¢ - 10 issues $1.50. Theodroe Heline, Editor. Box 6133 Metropolitan Station, Los Angeles 55, Calif. (Not a paid advertisement) .....

CHIMES: 18 pp., illustrated. Published monthly by Bert L. Welch and Ruth Welch, box 218, Brea, Calif. Copy 10¢ - $1.00 yr. ("New Books" Dept., 2 pp of book titles)

The Rosicrucian Magazine. Monthly. Rosicrucian Fellowship, Oceanside, Calif. 25¢-$2.50

ASTROLOGICAL BULLETINA. Issued annually by Llewellyn Publications, Lts. 8921 Nat'l Blvd., Los Angeles 34, Calif. Astrological counsel for 12 months. $1.10 copy.

RESEARCH: 16-page bulletin of Atlantis Research Center, Hoerbiger Institute and The Avalon Society. Chairman, Egerton Sykes. Apparently a bi-monthly; annual subscr. $2.50. U.S. Affiliates are Floyd Shattuck, Box 18, Brady Lake, Ohio, (Atlantean Research Society), and ROUND ROBIN. (Not a paid advertisement).

DOUBT: Fortean Society Magazine. About 15 pp., 7 x 10". Box 192 Grand Central Am ex, New York. Copy 25 ¢ - yr. $2.00.